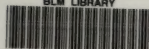


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THE NEW BLM



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U.S. DEPARTMENT *of the* INTERIOR
BUREAU *of* LAND MANAGEMENT

THE

NEW BLM

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"We have been blessed in this country with a bountiful land. Fertile soils, abundant water, great forests, productive fisheries, teeming wildlife, rich mineral resources — these have been our heritage. ... For this reason, the protection of the environment and the conservation and wise management of our natural resources — this whole notion of stewardship — must have a high priority on our national agenda."

President Bush

The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) oversees the Nation's largest system of Federal lands. Covering more than 270 million acres — one-eighth of the United States — these lands span the entire American scene, ranging from tundra to coastline, alpine meadow to sand dune, slick rock canyon to dry lake, raging river to subterranean cave.

President Bush has entrusted the BLM to conserve Public Lands while maintaining them for multiple uses. Under the leadership of Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan and BLM Director Cy Jamison, the BLM is managing the country's vital natural resources and protecting the environment while ensuring the availability of mineral, energy, timber, rangeland and recreational resources and opportunities critical to our quality of life.

As we move toward the 21st century, the BLM will continue to look for solutions that offer the greatest capacity to accommodate future growth while safeguarding our wildlife, natural areas, historic sites and scenic vistas. Our goal is to bring about a new balance in natural resources, one that will enhance our Public Lands and generate vital economic benefits.

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RECREATION

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THE PROGRAM

The BLM offers the public the most diverse recreational opportunities of any Federal land management agency. The agency oversees areas of special importance to Americans, including more than 2,000 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, 1,700 miles of Scenic and Historic Trails, 6 National Conservation Areas and a National Recreation Area.

Recreation 2000 is the BLM's blueprint to meet the increased demand for recreation on the Public Lands. Our goals are to (1) provide quality service to visitors, (2) maintain facilities in their best possible condition and open new facilities when appropriate and (3) improve the BLM's ability to protect recreation areas and related natural resources from needless loss or damage.

Since the plan's inception, the BLM has raised public awareness of its role in safeguarding natural resources while offering high-quality recreational opportunities. The agency's National implementation efforts are already showing results. Through informational services and on-site personal contact, the BLM keeps current with the public's desires for recreation and educates citizens about their responsibility for preserving Public Lands. The BLM has added facilities for visitor use and enjoyment, offering a safe and healthy environment for recreation while protecting limited natural resources through controlled recreation use.

The BLM boosts State and local economies through its aggressive tourism, public information and outreach efforts. It also fosters relationships with local communities, other Federal agencies and private groups through partnerships to improve recreation management.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Cares for 290 Special Recreation Areas*
- *Forms partnerships with volunteer groups to manage rivers, trails, caves and historical sites; staff visitor centers; collect fees; and maintain campgrounds*
- *Hosted 44 recreation showcase projects*
- *Provides information to more than 2.4 million homes and 70,000 travel agents through a National computer recreation information service*
- *Implemented land ethics programs such as "Tread Lightly" and "Leave No Trace"*

- The BLM is moving forward, setting an ambitious pace for the next decade and beyond. By the year 2000, we intend to be substantially more responsive to the needs of visitors and better known as a protector of natural resources and as a major provider of recreation opportunities on Public Lands.

BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS

The BLM's National *Back Country Byways* program offers the American public an opportunity to rediscover the splendor of the West's Public Lands.

The National *Back Country Byways* program is the BLM's unique contribution to the larger *National Scenic Byways* program. Both are the result of a study by the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors, which found 43 percent of American adults identified driving for pleasure as a favorite pastime.

In 1990, the BLM dedicated Gold Butte Road in southeastern Nevada as the first of more than 44 *Back Country Byways* in the 11 Western States where the BLM operates. These byways are

designated only if there is local community involvement and support. The BLM works to create partnerships to involve the private sector in the byways program. In cooperation with members from the business community, such as the Farmers Insurance Group of Companies and American Isuzu, the BLM is erecting signs to help motorists find the *Back Country Byways*, distributing maps and promotional materials and posting interpretive markers.



BLM's Red Rock Back Country Byway in Nevada.

- Operated or participated in the management of 21 visitor centers
- Signed agreements with such private groups as the Go Camping America Committee, the All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute, the National Rifle Association and Defenders of Wildlife
- Established recreational programs including *Back Country Byways*, *Adventures in the Past*, *Watchable Wildlife and Fishing Partners and You*
- Co-sponsored the National Interpreters Workshop
- Formed a seven-agency committee to develop programs for professional outdoor recreation managers

ADVENTURES IN THE PAST

4

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Administers 216 areas listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 5 World Heritage properties and 22 National Historic Landmarks*
- *Recorded over 150,000 archaeological and historic properties on more than 9 million acres of Public Land*
- *Estimates cultural properties on Public Lands cared for by the BLM to exceed 4 million*
- *Authorized more than 20 university field schools to train their students in archaeological methods on BLM-managed cultural properties*

THE PROGRAM

The Federal government's largest, most varied and scientifically most important body of cultural resources is found on BLM Public Lands. To ensure that cultural resources exist for future generations of Americans to enjoy, the BLM developed its *Adventures in the Past* initiative in 1990, which promotes public education and outreach in cultural resources and enlists public involvement in the protection of archaeological resources.

Adventures in the Past responds directly to the President's goals of not only preserving America's treasury of Public Land resources, but also greatly enhancing the access Americans have to these resources. *Adventures* also promotes the President's and Interior Secretary's education goals, particularly in the science and math fields, by offering unique education experiences in archaeology, encouraging scientific study of the BLM's outstanding cultural resources and identifying research projects with management benefits.

PALEONTOLOGY

Exceptional paleontological resources are found on BLM-managed lands. A rare dinosaur skeleton was recently unearthed by Swiss paleontologists on BLM lands in Wyoming. The skeleton was excavated by Montana State University under a cooperative agreement with the BLM. The skeleton will go to the Museum of the Rockies, and a full cast will go to the University of Wyoming's Geological Museum for research as well as display.

Through *Adventures in the Past*, the BLM is expanding the number of interpreted places the public can go to enjoy cultural resources. The BLM is promoting rural economic development by showcasing cultural resources with recreation and tourism potential.

The BLM devotes approximately one-third of its cultural resource management program budget to site management and protection. This includes the agency's on-site personnel presence to combat looting, vandalism and unauthorized uses of cultural resources.

Cultural resources on Public Lands administered by the BLM span the entire period of human presence in the New World, a claim no other Federal agency can make. Regional and thematic events, including the Columbus Quincentennial and "Trails West," will continue to offer exciting educational opportunities as the BLM preserves America's heritage.

HERITAGE EDUCATION



Native American volunteers join with the BLM at Squaw Leap in California to share their cultural heritage and instill environmental awareness in students.

The BLM's *Heritage Education* program is an element of *Adventures in the Past*. The program seeks to strengthen children's sense of personal responsibility for the stewardship of America's cultural heritage and to use historic and archaeological resources as magnets for learning in science, math and other subjects.

By drawing on the inspiration and intellectual excitement inherent in the study of history and archaeology, the BLM hopes to capture the attention of young people, sustain their interest through hands-on activities and involve them in sophisticated learning experiences throughout higher levels of learning.

In 1992, the BLM will launch its new program with an educational video for schools featuring the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles; two articles in *Science and Children*, a professional magazine for science teachers; and several partnership projects.

Ultimately, the BLM's heritage education program will provide opportunities for students across the Nation in grades K-12. Educational experiences and teaching resources will be offered for the school setting, as well as for outdoor classrooms, museums and other informal learning environments.

PUBLIC LAND

WILDERNESS

6

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Completed the world's largest wilderness inventory and study — examining more than 26 million acres of Public Lands as potential wilderness*
- *Recommended Federal wilderness designation for nearly 10 million acres of Public Lands administered by the BLM*
- *Proposed the expansion of the 95 million-acre National Wilderness Preservation System by more than 10 percent*

THE PROGRAM

Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan recently recommended to President Bush Federal wilderness designation for nearly 10 million acres of Public Lands administered by the BLM. Under the landmark 1964 Wilderness Act, wilderness is defined as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

The Secretary's recommendations are the culmination of the BLM's wilderness study process, which began when Congress passed the Federal Land Policy and Management Act in 1976.

Based on the BLM's study of more than 26 million acres of potential wilderness, the Secretary has proposed that 9,720,490 acres of BLM land in 328 areas be set aside as Federally protected wilderness. If approved by Congress, the Secretary's BLM wilderness proposal would expand the 95 million-acre National Wilderness Preservation System by more than 10 percent. The Secretary's proposal would also release 13,166,476 acres of BLM land from wilderness study for multiple uses other than wilderness.

With the recent enactment of the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990, the BLM currently manages 66 designated wilderness areas, located in 9 different states, totalling 1,610,995 acres, or approximately 2 percent of the National Wilderness Preservation System. A number of the BLM areas were designated by separate legislation commencing in 1978.



The United States was the first Nation to set aside pristine wilderness areas for permanent protection in their natural state.

THE WAR ON DRUGS

THE PROGRAM

The BLM enforces Federal laws to aid in President Bush's war on drugs. Illegal drug activity on Public Lands is a major concern. The cultivation of marijuana and manufacture of illegal substances endangers the lives of BLM employees and people enjoying Public Lands for recreation and other uses. The BLM is aggressive in its investigation and prosecution of individuals engaged in illegal drug activity and works closely with other agencies to eradicate marijuana and eliminate drug sites from Public Lands.

Other Law Enforcement Activities

The BLM also protects natural resources, wildlife and historic artifacts. Among the laws the BLM enforces are the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 and the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971.



BLM Special Agents and Rangers work closely with Federal and State agencies and local Sheriff's offices to coordinate enforcement efforts on Public Lands.

The BLM investigates and prosecutes individuals who sell stolen artifacts on the black market to private museums and art collectors throughout the world. In addition, the agency investigates and prosecutes individuals for the inhumane treatment of wild horses and burros. Anyone caught vandalizing or destroying public facilities, setting fires to forests or rangelands, polluting streams and lakes and dumping garbage is also subject to prosecution.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Seized illegal drugs worth more than \$261 million in 1991*
- *Nearly doubled the BLM ranger force from 90 rangers in 1989 to 162 rangers in 1991*
- *Tripled BLM law enforcement budget in the last four years, increasing from \$4.2 million in 1989 to \$15.1 million in 1992*
- *Increased arrests from 27 in 1989 to 178 in 1991*
- *Confiscated 185 weapons, 32 vehicles, 3 houses, 3 boats and \$516,000 in cash in 1991*
- *Seized more than 19,000 marijuana plants, 715 pounds of cocaine, 22 pounds of amphetamine and 3 units of LSD in 1991*

THE PROGRAM

The BLM regulates and manages the exploration, development and extraction of minerals and energy sources on Federal and Native American lands, which it does in coordination with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, industry and conservation groups. Its role is to balance the needs of the public for these resources, considered vital to National security and the American lifestyle, while ensuring protection of the environment.

The BLM leases and sells onshore minerals. Its responsibilities include land-use planning; issuance of leases; recording and annual filing of mining claims; review of plans for exploration and development; and inspection, enforcement and production verification of leases and mining operations to ensure compliance with approved plans.

Over the past three years, the BLM has developed and implemented major initiatives to ensure protection of the surface and subsurface environment. For example, the BLM has initiated a new inspection and enforcement strategy for oil and gas operations, providing greater production accountability.

In an action designed to boost the economy, the BLM is working to issue a rulemaking that would allow for a reduced royalty rate for stripper oil wells so that operators will get the maximum amount of economically recoverable oil from a reservoir or field. Keeping stripper wells in production and bringing shut-in wells back on line will help promote stability in the domestic oil industry with minimal environmental impacts.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Administers leases producing 156 million barrels of oil and 1 million cubic feet of gas*
- *Manages one-third of the Nation's coal resources*
- *Manages leases producing 90% of the Nation's potash, used in making such things as fertilizer*
- *Recorded highest production rate ever from a methane gas well on a Federal lease*
- *Developed a series of published Onshore Oil and Gas Operating Orders establishing minimum technical standards for oil and gas operators*
- *Implemented surface management initiatives in the Mining Law Administration*

To provide for greater production accountability of sand, gravel and other mineral material operations, the BLM is developing a National policy on inspection and enforcement for those minerals.

Through land-use planning, environmental analysis, regular monitoring of operations, bonding of operators and cooperation with industry and other Public Land

users, the BLM is achieving environmentally sound development and reclamation of our mineral and energy resources.

S U R F A C E — M A N A G E M E N T — I N I T I A T I V E S

The Mining Law of 1872 serves as the statutory basis for the disposition of locatable minerals from Federal land. Over the past 25 years, operation of the Mining Law has been significantly modified by enactment of a number of environmental laws at both the Federal and State levels, including the Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

In 1981, the BLM established surface management regulations to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation from mining operations on Public Lands administered by the BLM. Since issuing its regulations, the BLM has steadily increased its emphasis on surface management, including inspection and enforcement.

Under the Bush administration, the BLM has strengthened surface management. Specifically, BLM has: (1) increased inspections at operations to determine compliance with notices and plans and ensure that reclamation requirements are being met, (2) issued a national cyanide management policy requiring extensive safeguards for the use of cyanide and other potentially toxic leachates in mining operations, (3) revised the bonding policy to ensure that plan-level operations will be bonded, (4) proposed changes in bonding regulations to require financial guarantees for all operators and (5) initiated a review of the 5-acre threshold policy to determine whether it should be eliminated or modified to give the BLM



New technologies increase efficiency at Western gold mining operations.

more authority over mining operations that disturb 5 acres or less per year.

The BLM continues to use Federal, State and local regulatory framework to respond to contemporary management needs. Its accelerated surface management program uses existing authorities to show that the oft-cited "problems" of the Mining Law can be resolved.

OUR GROWING LEGACY

H I G H L I G H T S

- *Manages 48 million acres of forested lands, almost one-fifth of the BLM's total acreage*
- *Cares for 22 million acres of forest land in Alaska — approximately 7 million acres of commercial forest and 15 million acres of woodlands*
- *Administers 26 million acres of forest land in the lower 48 States — 5 million acres of commercial forest land and 21 million acres of woodland*

T H E P R O G R A M

The variety of forests and woodlands managed by the BLM is striking: aspens in Colorado, ponderosa pine in New Mexico, pinyon junipers in much of the Great Basin country, the towering Douglas-firs of western Oregon, oak woodlands in California and black spruce in Alaska. All of this forest land provides many benefits, such as wildlife habitat, watershed protection, recreation, forest products and livestock forage.

In 1990, the BLM initiated a forest management outreach effort to expand the agency's existing forestry program, emphasizing total forest and woodland management. *Forests: Our Growing Legacy* is a response to the public's interest in the non-commodity side of forest management, such as recreation, wildlife habitat and riparian areas. Our goal is to plan into the next

century and to take an ecosystem approach to long-term management of forests.

Some of the BLM's forests are among the most productive in the world. But there is more to a forest than the trees. Fish and wildlife depend on forests and woodlands for habitat. Healthy forests help keep water clean and flowing. More than ever, people flock to the forests to get away from the city — to hike, camp, fish, hunt or just take in the clean air and enjoy the sights.

In all of the BLM's Western States, new partnerships are being formed with private organizations, schools, agencies and others to achieve forest management goals.

The BLM manages the forests of western Oregon according to several Federal laws, which challenge the agency to address the needs of local economies while conserving natural resources.

The BLM's focus on the northern spotted owl intensified in July 1990 when the bird was listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The BLM has monitored the species for almost 20 years, and has considered the species in its forest management programs since the mid-1970s.



Douglas-fir forest on BLM Public Lands in western Oregon.

In response to the Federal listing, the agency expanded its staff and gathered even more biological and scientific data on the species and its habitat.

The BLM nearly doubled the number of employees working on spotted owl surveys in 1990. BLM recorded 428 pairs of spotted owls in 1991, up from 424 pairs that the agency counted in 1990. BLM biologists and cooperators visited a total of 732 spotted owl sites on BLM lands in 1991, an increase from the previous year's effort by 76 sites. Density demography studies were expanded in five western Oregon districts to allow for inventory on every part of a given land area, thereby increasing the accuracy of owl counts. The BLM's improved counting techniques are now being used by other Federal agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service, in order to maintain consistency.



The BLM is striving to balance protection of the threatened spotted owl with the need for a stable timber supply.

This information, along with other new data, will assist the BLM in designing future timber harvests.

The range of the northern spotted owl extends from British Columbia in Canada through forests of Washington and Oregon and into northern California. There are two other subspecies of spotted owl, the Mexican spotted owl, located in the Southwestern United States and Mexico, and the California spotted owl.

RIPARIAN-WETLAND

INITIATIVE

12

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Prepared individual State strategies to identify riparian needs for fiscal years 1991-1995*
- *Completed 682 on-site restoration and improvement projects*
- *Maintains 532 riparian-wetland projects*
- *Monitored management actions on 544 plans or sites*
- *Designates riparian-wetland areas as Unique Waters, National Riparian Conservation Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern*

THE PROGRAM

The BLM's *Riparian-Wetland Initiative for the 1990's* is part of Interior Secretary Lujan's stewardship agenda in support of the President's environmental objectives.

Riparian-wetland areas on Public Lands comprise 23.7 million acres, or 8.8 percent of the lands managed by the BLM. The *Riparian-Wetland Initiative* protects watersheds supporting the widest variety of vegetation and habitat diversity for wildlife, fish and livestock. This interdisciplinary strategy complements other BLM resource management programs.

Over the past 3 years, the BLM has been working hard to restore and maintain these rich riparian-wetland areas, with the aim that 75 percent or more of these areas will be in proper condition by 1997. To achieve that goal, the BLM has expanded and improved key areas to provide for maximum public benefit, protection and enhancement. The BLM also began an aggressive riparian-wetland information and outreach program to raise public awareness of the value of healthy riparian-wetland areas. In addition, the agency maintained and fostered new partnerships with Federal, State and local governments, interest groups and private organizations to improve riparian-wetland areas.

The BLM is giving top priority to riparian-wetland areas showing potential for improvement and those in danger of further degradation. Other factors, including the presence of threatened or endangered species, are also considered in setting priorities.

To make such determinations, the BLM began the process of collecting, compiling and evaluating information on the ecological status of riparian-wetland areas. Management plans were developed for these areas,

which included such projects as fence construction and maintenance, water developments and tree planting. The BLM then conducted site-specific monitoring to determine the success of management actions.

Today, the BLM is striving to meet the stewardship and wetlands conservation goals of President Bush and Interior Secretary Lujan.

WORKING TO SAVE THE LAND

As part of its campaign to improve and maintain riparian-wetland areas, the BLM in 1990 joined forces with the Izaak Walton League, Trout Unlimited, government agencies and other groups to sponsor riparian enhancement projects in Nevada, California, Oregon, Idaho and New Mexico. BLM Director Cy Jamison hailed the projects as an example of how conservationists, land users and government officials can work together to achieve a common goal.

A riparian enhancement project usually involves planting willows or cottonwood trees, constructing small instream structures, seeding stream banks and building or removing

fences. These riparian areas are among the most productive ecosystems found on Public Lands, often displaying a greater diversity of plant and wildlife species than adjacent areas.

The BLM's Prineville, Oregon District won a National Environmental Achievement Award in 1990 for its riparian-wetland restoration work. Renew America, which represents more than 20 major U.S. environmental advocacy groups, conferred the award in conjunction with the 20th anniversary



The BLM's Big Elk Creek riparian area in Idaho is benefiting from such restoration efforts as willow planting and streamside stabilization work.

of Earth Day. The organization recognized the BLM for its implementation of proper livestock grazing practices, which are aimed at improving vegetation growth along streams during high spring water flows.

RANGE OF OUR VISION

14

THE PROGRAM

The BLM's range program emphasizes a balance in the management of riparian and upland ranges to protect and improve these resources for multiple uses, including livestock grazing.

Rangelands are in better condition than ever before in this century, with about 80 percent of these lands in a stable to improving trend. This success is the result of sound land-use planning and cooperation with government agencies, range users, interest groups and others at both the National and local levels.

In 1990, the BLM issued its *Range of Our Vision* strategy aimed at achieving several objectives. The BLM is working to bring 75 percent of its riparian-wetland areas into a natural state that support the widest variety of forage and habitat for wildlife, livestock and watershed

protection. Additionally, the BLM is increasing the percentage of its most healthy rangeland.

To ensure the most up-to-date management practices are used, the BLM and the National Public Lands Advisory Council have invited outside experts to participate in a special blue ribbon committee. This group is providing recommendations to guide *Range of Our Vision* into the 21st century.

In cooperation with ranchers and others, the BLM is completing ecological site inventories for all Public Lands and developing management plans on 3,600 high-priority grazing allotments. These plans make the best use of forage and maintain soil, water and vegetation while meeting public demands for other multiple-use values. These plans can be complex, and their success relies

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Manages 170 million acres of public rangeland*
- *Provides seasonal forage for 4.3 million head of livestock*
- *Oversees 22,600 allotments used by 19,600 livestock operators*
- *Established monitoring systems on nearly 11,000 allotments*
- *Seeded 18,000 acres to protect upland watershed and control fire spread*
- *Implemented activity plans covering over 16 million acres*
- *Finalized an Interagency Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service for enhanced range management training opportunities*

heavily on cooperation between permittees, Federal managers and others.

Healthy range vegetation remains the key component to upland and riparian rangeland ecosystems, and rangeland monitoring continues to be among the BLM's top priorities. By managing the timing and duration of livestock use, the BLM improves grass production, controls erosion, recharges aquifers and enhances riparian conditions.

Through field observation and data gathering, the BLM tracks long-term trends in range conditions. As a result, the BLM now describes range conditions in more meaningful ecological terms.

With the support of Congress and the public, the BLM is confident that the ecological health of the public rangelands will continue to improve into the 21st century.

L I V I N G L E G E N D S

The BLM manages and protects America's wild horses and burros under the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971.

Through the BLM's *Adopt-a-Horse-or-Burro Program*, more than 105,000 wild horses and burros have been placed in private care.

Maintaining healthy herds of wild horses and burros as part of a thriving natural ecological balance is a serious challenge for the BLM. The agency determines how many animals the range can support and places excess animals in private care. The BLM also protects wild horses and burros from harassment.

In coordination with the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board, the BLM is working to improve on-site management of



Former National middleweight endurance riding champion Naomi Tyler adopted "Mustang Lady" through the BLM's Adopt-a-Horse-or-Burro Program.

horses and control the animal population through such methods as fertility control, selective gathering and better habitat monitoring.

In January 1992, the BLM announced a new long-term strategy for managing wild horses and burros, which reflected many recommendations of the advisory board. Major objectives of this strategy are to regain balance in the program, increase on-site management of the horses and reduce populations to appropriate levels.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

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THE PROGRAM

Public Lands provide homes for more than 3,000 species of mammals, reptiles, fish and birds. More than 161 species of animals and plants found on these lands are considered threatened or endangered. The BLM's primary management responsibility is to protect and enhance these valuable habitats while providing for such other uses as recreation, mineral development and livestock grazing.

The BLM in 1988 launched *Fish and Wildlife 2000 — A Plan for the Future*. This strategy sets forth a framework for effective management of fish and wildlife resources into the 21st century.

Managing 20 million acres of habitat critical to the survival of fish, wildlife and plant species has been the BLM's major thrust since the plan's inception. As a result, some populations of threatened and endangered species have increased and are on the way to recovery.

The BLM signed National-level agreements and long-term Memoranda of Understanding with a number of organizations, such as Ducks Unlimited, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Quail Unlimited, to complete projects benefiting fish and wildlife. In addition, the agency's Challenge Cost Share Initiative allocated money for projects that were backed with matching funds, materials and labor by State agencies, conservation groups and private citizens.

For example, the BLM's management vision for the Cosumnes River Preserve is to protect and restore the wetlands and riparian habitat of California's Central Valley. Through a partnership with Ducks Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy, the BLM has acquired and rehabilitated land previously used for agriculture. The same irrigation systems used by farmers will serve to support wetland habitat and riparian planting.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Manages 206 million acres of big game habitat and 233 million acres of small game habitat*
- *Hosted 30 National Fishing Week events*
- *Participated in an interagency task force, called Partners in Flight, to address declining populations of nongame birds nesting in the United States and wintering in Central and South America*
- *Identified 223 key raptor areas encompassing 13.5 million acres of Public Lands*
- *Monitored management actions on 544 plans or sites*

The BLM will continue to show the American people its ability to conserve fish and wildlife habitat while minimizing conflicts with traditional interests.

WATCHABLE WILDLIFE

In 1990, the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, other Federal and State agencies and several conservation organizations signed an agreement to work together to improve and increase wildlife viewing opportunities for the public. Our goals for the *Watchable Wildlife* program are to: (1) provide enhanced opportunities to enjoy wildlife on Federal lands, (2) promote learning about wildlife and their habitat needs, (3) mobilize public support for wildlife resource conservation, (4) upgrade Federal and State wildlife management programs and (5) protect habitat while preventing depletion of fish and wildlife species.

The BLM has established 159 *Watchable Wildlife* viewing sites in the 11 Western States and Alaska. In addition, the BLM and U.S. Forest Service have sponsored *Watchable Wildlife* workshops to help teams



The BLM manages over 28,000 bighorn sheep. Visitors may catch a glimpse of these animals from designated Watchable Wildlife sites.

of recreation and wildlife specialists develop and interpret watchable wildlife resources.

The BLM is encouraging other organizations to join the agency in implementing and publicizing the *Watchable Wildlife* program. The benefits are already resulting in a better understanding of wildlife conservation and increased recreation opportunities.

- *Reintroduced bighorn sheep into 39 new areas*

- *Initiated Animal Inn — a National agreement with Federal and State governments and private organizations to preserve selected trees for wildlife*

- *Initiated management of 225 key waterfowl areas and implemented management on a number of these areas*

- *Promotes Secretary Lujan's "Enjoy Outdoors America" program through implementation of recreational fishing initiatives including the BLM's First Congressional Fishing Tournament*

- *Manages 155,000 miles of fishable streams to enhance recreational fishing opportunities*

VOLUNTEERS

SHARED STEWARDSHIP

18

THE PROGRAM

Encouraging volunteerism is among the highest priorities of President Bush. The BLM is committed to this through the "Take Pride in America Campaign," the Interior Secretary's plan for "Stewardship of America's Public Lands and Resources," and implementation of the President's "Thousand Points of Light" initiative. In addition, the BLM has launched its *Fish and Wildlife 2000* and *Recreation 2000* initiatives, which call for an even greater use of alternative workforces and partners.

The BLM is placing a new emphasis on working with volunteers and other special partners to further its management goals and to create opportunities for the public and private sector to get involved in the stewardship of America's Public Lands. A strategic plan titled *Shared Stewardship* was signed by the BLM Director in April 1990. The goal of the plan is to define and carry out a course of action that will enable the BLM to use volunteers more effectively.

While volunteers will never replace the Federal workforce, opportunities for volunteers to improve the BLM's capabilities for resource protection and public service are almost without limit. Land-use planning, training, research, inventory, maintenance, interpretation, preservation and education are but a few of the areas where volunteers serve as stewards of the Public Lands.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Expanded the number of individual volunteers from 14,000 in 1989 to more than 21,000 in 1991, a 50 percent increase*
- *BLM volunteers in 1991 contributed more than 920,500 hours, a 20 percent increase over 1989*
- *BLM volunteer work in 1991 was valued at \$10.9 million at a cost to the agency of \$1.3 million*
- *The BLM's 1,700 hosted workers provided more than 383,000 hours of service in 1991 valued at \$4.5 million*

Volunteers and other supplemental workers are assisting BLM employees in getting their jobs done, stretching limited budget dollars, enhancing management, providing heightened public awareness and creating even more partnerships. For example, the BLM has established Memoranda of Understanding with several National

organizations, such as the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of the USA, 4-H and Future Farmers of America.

Through these partnerships and strong community involvement, the BLM has been able to tap its greatest natural resource — people.

TEACHING RESOURCES & LEADERSHIP



Thousands of Boy Scouts assist the BLM each year in various projects, such as cultural resource protection.

The Boy Scouts of America's *T.R.A.I.L. Boss* (*Teaching Resources and Individual Leadership*) program teaches volunteer leaders from any organization the specialized skills they need for training and leading crews in conservation projects.

The BLM has played a crucial part in launching this National effort. Instructed by conservation experts from land management agencies, the Boy Scouts of America and other conservation groups, trail bosses learn how to encourage and direct volunteers in completing demanding conservation projects on Public Lands. As these leaders gain knowledge and experience, the *Trail Boss* program will offer them opportunities to help train future leaders interested in directing conservation work.

